

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES  
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING  
ROOM 113  
THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006  
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Chair  
Bob Workman, Vice Chair  
Bernie Heier  
Ray Stevens

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2006**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes of March 30, 2006. Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- A. Disproportionate Minority Contact Grant
- B. Appointment of John Holz to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Ecological Advisory Committee (EAC) (Exhibit A)
- C. Pension Statements
- D. Potential Road Closure Near North 143<sup>rd</sup> and Rock Creek Road
- E. Jail Tours

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the additions to the agenda. Workman, Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**3 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** - Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant; Amy Prenda, Director of Legal Research and Analysis for Kissel/E&S Associates

Gordon Kissel, Legislative Consultant, presented a legislative update (Exhibit B).

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

B. Appointment of John Holz to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Ecological Advisory Committee (EAC) (Exhibit A)

The Board scheduled the item on the Tuesday, April 11, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

C. Pension Statements

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, said Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS) is working to correct a problem that occurred with some of the pension statements (employees with multiple, primary beneficiaries received a second statement showing an incorrect amount).

D. Potential Road Closure Near North 143<sup>rd</sup> and Rock Creek Road

Workman said the County is putting a bridge in a North 143<sup>rd</sup> and Rock Creek Road and as a result, is creating a dead-end road that leads to farmland. He said the farmer would like to have the road gated.

Eagan said gating the road is allowable under State Statues, with conditions. He said the farmer would need to pay for the gate.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Heier seconded to start the process to gate the road.

Heier expressed liability concerns and asked that that issue be addressed in the agreement with the landowner.

**ROLL CALL:** Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

E. Jail Tours

Heier said he and Commissioner Hudkins will tour jail facilities in Montgomery, Maryland and Arlington, Virginia (June 13-16, 2006).

## **ACTION ITEMS**

A. Payroll Insert for April 20, 2006 (Safety Flyer)

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval. Workman, Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Wiring for Courtroom Monitors (Approximately \$1,700 from the Building Fund)

**MOTION:** Workman moved approval of the request.

Eagan said District Court Judge Steven Burns plans to appear later in the meeting to explain the request.

Workman withdrew his motion.

### **4 SOUTH BELTWAY LINEAR PARK UPDATE - Terry Genrich, Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Manager**

Terry Genrich, Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Manager, gave a brief update on the proposed linear park along the South Beltway (27<sup>th</sup> Street east to 86<sup>th</sup> Street). He said the Nebraska Department of Roads has agreed to negotiate for purchase of land for the linear park at the same time they are purchasing land for the South Beltway, provided funding is in place to purchase the parkland. The first piece to be developed will be within the City's jurisdiction (Tier 1 Growth Area). Genrich said the land may continue to be farmed under lease agreements, with low native grasses planted in some areas. Maintenance will be minimal.

Workman said it has been suggested that the estimated cost per acre is too high and that the price might drop once the Beltway is in.

Genrich said he believes the Beltway will cause the price to increase. He said the cost estimate of \$20,000 per acre is an average and is based on appraisals in that area.

Workman suggested using the right-of-way acquired for the Beltway.

Genrich said that was the original intent, but the State will not allow it. The linear park will abut the right-of-way.

Workman asked whether the linear park is an unnecessary duplication of the Highway 2 trail.

Genrich said it will be a similar set-up and will provide a connection between the Salt Creek Basin and Stevens Creek Basin.

Heier asked whether the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District (NRD) can take an easement on wetlands on the east end, like it did in Stevens Creek.

Genrich said it is a possibility and said he will continue to work with them.

**5 CHANGE OF THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR FOR HEALTH CARE -**  
Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney, said Lancaster County needs to file a change of Third Party Administrator (TPA) Status for Payors, Attachment 2.6, with the New York State Department of Health, for the County's self-funded group health plan to reflect the change from United Healthcare to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska.

The Board scheduled the item on the Tuesday, April 11, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

A. Disproportionate Minority Contact Grant

Corey Steele, Juvenile Justice Coordinator, appeared and gave a summary of the grant request (Exhibits C & D).

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Heier seconded approval of the grant application and authorized signature by the Chair. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**6 MENTORING INITIATIVE GRANT WITH TEAMMATES -** Michelle Schindler, Youth Services Center Director; Dr. Richard Krause, Education Coordinator at the Youth Services Center; Sandi Fabry, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) TeamMates Mentoring Program Coordinator

Sandi Fabry, Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) TeamMates Mentoring Program Coordinator, said LPS is applying for a grant for the Mentoring Initiative of System Involved Youth Program (Exhibit E). Funds will be used to create mentoring relationships with students involved in the juvenile justice system, re-entry and foster care. Student referrals for the grant project will come from the Youth Services Center, Probation, the Pathfinder Program and the LPS Transition Program. Mentors will be recruited from community and faith-based groups and business partners. TeamMates will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant. She requested a letter of support for the grant.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded to authorize the Chair to sign the grant application. Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**7 PARTNERS IN EMPOWERMENT AND RECOVERY (PIER) PROGRAM PERSONNEL CHANGES** - Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director; Don Taute, Personnel Director; Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney,

Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director, said George Hanigan no longer wants to serve as the team leader for the Partners in Empowerment and Recovery (PIER) Project. Hanigan will instead serve as a case manager (voluntary demotion). Settle proposed that the team leader position move to Lutheran Family Services and one case manager position move from CenterPointe to Lancaster County (Exhibit G). He also proposed that two additional case manager positions, specific to the PIER Project, be created at CMHC. One would be created for Hanigan's demotion and one would remain open until needed. Settle said the shifts in personnel and resultant costs to the County will be covered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team allocation through Region V Systems.

Heier questioned whether it is time to move the program to another agency, as this is not a mandated program.

Stevens said he believes involvement in this type of program minimizes the County's exposure in other areas, i.e. the Crisis Center, General Assistance and law enforcement.

Kristy Mundt, Deputy County Attorney, noted that the collaborative agreement with CenterPointe and Lutheran Family Services to implement the PIER Program (Exhibit H) and the agreement with CenterPointe for the services of a program director and a case manager renew July 1, 2006. She said she will have to redo both contracts and would like to see them move quickly through the signature process.

Stevens suggested that the contracts be set up to run through June 30, 2007, effective upon signature.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded to ask the County Attorney's Office to draft new agreements, incorporating the changes requested by Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Director, and that the agreements extend from April 4, 2006, the effective date of George Hanigan's resignation as Project Director for the Partners in Empowerment and Recovery (PIER) Project, through June 30, 2007. Heier, Stevens, Workman and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Brief discussion also took place regarding a letter Settle sent to the Personnel Department regarding a new associate fiscal officer position at CMHC (Exhibit I).

## **RETURNING TO ITEM 8B**

District Court Judge Steven Burns appeared and gave a brief explanation of the request.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Heier seconded approval of the request. Stevens, Workman, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

## **8 ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Payroll Insert for April 20, 2006 (Safety Flyer)
- B. Wiring for Courtroom Monitors (Approximately \$1,700 from the Building Fund)

Items A and B were moved forward on the agenda.

## **9 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT**

- A. Claim for Review - Payment Voucher 64330 in the Amount of \$148.00 to Dry Clean City for Alteration Services (Claim is Beyond the 90 Day Time Period)

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded to handle the claim through the regular claims process at the Tuesday, April 11, 2006 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Email from Gary Chalupa, Veterans Service Officer/General Assistance Director, Regarding Concealed Weapons (LB 454)

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded to ask the Public Building Commission to consider posting signs prohibiting concealed weapons on all property owned, or leased, by the City, County or Public Building Commission. Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Stevens moved to authorize the Public Building Commission to post signs prohibiting concealed weapons on all County owned property.

The motion failed for the lack of a second.

The Board asked that Don Killeen, County Property Manager, brief them on options.

C. Reschedule Planning Workshop with Dave Ptak (April 20, 2006)

Board consensus was to reschedule the work session for Tuesday, May 2, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

D. Pending Policy

The Board reviewed the draft policy (see agenda packet).

Board consensus was to schedule items being removed from the pending list on the County Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda two weeks from the day the item is removed. The County Clerk's Office will send notification to the applicant/agent the day following the item's removal.

**10 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS**

A. Monthly Meeting of Public Building Commissioner (PBC) Chair/Vice Chair and Mayor - Hudkins

No report.

B. Lincoln-Lancaster County Ecological Advisory Committee (EAC) - Heier

Heier said the project to run a sewer line through Wilderness Park has started.

C. Lincoln Partnership for Economic Development (LPED) - Schorr, Workman

Workman said there was a presentation on the biotech industry in Lincoln.

D. Public Building Commissioner (PBC) - Hudkins, Workman

Workman said there was a decision to move renovation of 9<sup>th</sup> & J Street Building (555 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street) up to Phase I. Phase II will involve renovation of Courthouse Plaza. He said Adult Probation will remain in the Jail, which will makes the timeline for jail construction more critical.

E. Chamber of Commerce City Council/County Board Coffee - Stevens

Stevens said Don Thomas, County Engineer, reported on the Rural to Urban Transportation System (RUTS) Program and floodplain issues.

The Board asked that Thomas brief them on plans for 98<sup>th</sup> Street.

**11 ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Heier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 a.m. Stevens, Heier, Workman and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

---

Bruce Medcalf  
Lancaster County Clerk